

3600.1622-D1
December 17, 2002 (11:39AM)

Docket: AM-1622.D1

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hong SHIH et al.

Attorneys Docket: AM-1622.D1

Serial No.: 09/489,356

Art Unit No.: 1763

Filed: January 21, 2000

Examiner: R. Zervigon

For: "COATING BORON CARBIDE ON ALUMINUM"

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of November 5, 2002, please amend the above application as follows:

Please replace the claims with:

1. (Already Amended) A method of coating boron carbide on an aluminum-based substrate, comprising the steps of:
roughening a surface of a substrate to a value of surface finish R_a of between $2.5\mu\text{m}$ and $7.6\mu\text{m}$, wherein said substrate is composed of an aluminum-based material selected from the group consisting of substantially pure aluminum and aluminum alloys including at least 90 wt% elemental aluminum;

anodizing said substrate to form an anodization layer; and
depositing a boron carbide layer upon said anodization layer.

2. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 29, wherein said depositing step comprises thermal spraying to form said boron carbide layer upon said surface.

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